

Application No. 10/682,541  
Docket No. 63268.US

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. Cancelled.
2. (Currently amended) Immobilization device, comprising: an osseous anchoring element provided with a head having two vertical ~~elastic~~ walls delimiting a central U shaped opening whose bottom has a part cylindrical profile, each ~~elastic~~ vertical wall being separated from the bottom of the central opening by a vertical slot giving a certain elasticity to each vertical wall, said ~~elastic~~ vertical walls including respectively at each end a profile in the form of a hooking blade disposed facing each other and on opposite sides of the central opening, said hooking blades including respectively in their upper portion snap-in teeth, and a blocking element including a seat, a screw-threaded bore opening within the seat, a tightening screw coaxing with the screw-threaded bore and lugs which coax respectively with said teeth, the blocking element having a lower surface including a seat having part cylindrical profile, and an upper surface including a screw-threaded bore opening within the seat and in which coacts a tightening screw, and lateral surfaces parallel two by two and of which at least two of the lateral surfaces are secured respectively to the lugs.
3. (Currently amended) Immobilization device according to claim 2 wherein each ~~elastic~~ vertical wall comprises on its internal surface and between the hooking blades a part cylindrical vertical seat having grooves on each side.
4. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 2, wherein the teeth have a hooking profile turned inwardly of the central opening.
5. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 4, wherein each of the teeth comprises above its hooking portion and in the direction of the opening an inclined external profile prolonged in the outward direction by a convexly rounded profile.
6. Cancelled
7. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 2, wherein the lugs are in the form of teeth comprising hooking portions separated by a vertical seat bordered laterally by ribs.
8. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 7, wherein the hooking portions are closed opposite the lateral surfaces by means of a corresponding one of the vertical ribs.
9. (Currently amended) Immobilization device according to claim 2, wherein ~~the~~ <sup>[[1]]</sup>, each vertical wall includes a central surface bordered laterally and on each side by the elastic blades separated respectively from said central surface by vertical slots.

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10. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 9, wherein the central surface of each vertical wall is pierced by a hole opening within the central U shaped opening.

11. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 2, wherein the teeth have an external profile which is convexly rounded and inclined.

12. Cancelled

13. Cancelled

14. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 2, wherein a first pair of the lateral surfaces comprising respectively above the seat an impression adapted to coact with an instrument for the manipulation and emplacement of said blocking element on the osseous anchoring element.

15. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 9, wherein a second pair of the lateral surfaces are disposed in the width of said blocking element and positioned in prolongation of the first pair of lateral surfaces.

16. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 14, wherein each lug comprises respectively in its upper portion an inclined or beveled flat whose lower base is positioned in the plane containing each of said first pair of lateral surfaces.

17. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 16, wherein each lug comprises respectively in its lower portion and opposite the inclined flats, a rounded profile.

18. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 2, wherein a distance separating two of the lugs is less than that provided between the teeth.

19. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 9, wherein the pressure force applied to the blocking element permits by means of the lugs and the vertical slots a lateral deformation of the elastic blades in the direction of the central surface of each wall of the osseous anchoring element.

20. (Previously presented) Immobilization device comprising: an osseous anchoring element provided with a head comprising two truncated vertical walls delimiting a central opening of U shape whose bottom has a part cylindrical profile, each vertical wall being constituted by a central surface bordered laterally and on each side by elastic blades separated respectively from said central surface by vertical slots, said elastic blades including respectively in their upper portion a snap-in tooth and a blocking element comprising a seat with part cylindrical profile, a screw-threaded bore opening within said seat, a tightening screw coacting with the screw-threaded bore and lugs which coact respectively with, wherein the teeth have a hooking portion which is turned inwardly of the second opening and above the central surface of each vertical wall, and each of the teeth includes above its hooking portion and in the direction of the opening, an inclined external profile prolonged in the outward direction by a convexly curved profile.

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21. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 20, wherein a first central opening of U shape carried by a first axis of the connecting rod and whose bottom has a part cylindrical profile, and a second opening perpendicular to the first axis and to the first opening.

22. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 21 wherein the two perpendicular openings permit delimiting at each point of the elastic blades adapted to deform elastically under a pressure force.

23. Cancelled

24. Cancelled

25. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 20 wherein the blocking element comprises at least four lateral surfaces parallel two by two and of which at least two are secured respectively to two lugs in the form of a tooth.

26. (Previously presented) Immobilization device according to claim 25 wherein each lug comprises a hooking portion positioned retracted and spaced from the lateral surfaces and opposite two of the lateral surfaces of the blocking element.

27. Cancelled.